

INTERVENTION BY THIS GOVERNMENT MIGHT BE JUSTIFIED

But for the President's preference to take no action, awaiting the sentiment of the American people to assist him in determining when it is time to act. This was the course pursued by Mr. McKinley during the insurrection in Cuba.

Personally the members of the Government feel that Germany has gone too far and that her actions tend to create suspicion as to her purpose in adopting coercive measures against Venezuela. As to England and Italy, the feeling of the Government is that they would be glad of an agreement which would permit them to withdraw from the alliance against the South American republics.

The sentiment in Congress against Germany is very bitter. It is not exaggeration to say that two-thirds of the Senators and Representatives believe that the United States Government would be justified in calling on Germany for an explanation of the bombardment of Fort San Carlos. Nor is the statement beyond the fact that throughout official Washington, beginning at the very highest place, the professed friendship of the Imperial authorities for the United States is strongly doubted and the suspicion holds that the Government at Berlin is only too willing to injure this country.

Rear Admiral Taylor, Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, who is in charge of the distribution of the fleet, had an interview with President Roosevelt this afternoon. It was declared positively that his only business with the President was the assignment of some naval officers in the Far East.

Officials are greatly gratified over the fact that announcement was made before the Venezuelan embargo was begun, that the powerful battleship squadron under Rear Admiral Hingham would remain in West Indian waters until the end of February. Through this fortunate circumstance the Government will be able to keep the squadron in the vicinity of Porto Rico without exciting suspicion in the minds of Germany or either of the other European nations in the anti-Venezuelan alliance, that this strong naval force is being retained within a comparatively short distance of Venezuela as a menace to the operations of the allies. It was said at the Navy Department to-day that when the fleet left Porto Rico about March 1, it would visit Cuba, and then go to the Gulf of Mexico.

ENGLISH IRRITATION GROWS.

Demands for Ending the Alliance—German Financiers Protest.

LONDON, Jan. 23.—The resumption of the bombardment of Fort San Carlos, near Maracaibo, is regarded as confirming the view that it is merely a German enterprise. The evening newspapers repeat their headlines of yesterday, such as "The Kaiser's Vengeance."

The Star says editorially that it does not suit the Kaiser to allow the question to be referred to the Hague tribunal and promptly and to peacefully settled before, just when negotiations are beginning to be on the verge of opening fire on the Venezuelan front.

The agitation in Great Britain for breaking off the alliance with Germany has found utterance at many political meetings. It is considered particularly unfortunate that Prime Minister Balfour, as Lord Lansdowne, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, should both be ill at the present time.

The strength of feeling among distinguished persons outside of politics against the alliance is remarkable. George Meredith, the novelist, has written a bitter denouncing the formation of a Liberal association at Leamington, where he resides. In his letter Mr. Meredith says: "There was never a more feeble Government conducting the affairs of the nation. We may trust the Liberal party to be independent of foreign entanglements."

The evidence that Germany does not desire a peaceful solution of the Venezuelan question causes anxiety not only in England, but among an important section of the Kaiser's subjects. It is learned that prominent German financiers with interests in South America have sent a letter to Chancellor von Bulow in which they ask that the recent proceedings will certainly harm German commerce. These financiers urge on the Government the desirability of consulting rather than alienating South American interests in all the South American republics.

SAY THE FORT FIRED FIRST.

Reports from German Sources Excuse the Bombardment.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.
WILMINGTON, Del., Jan. 23.—News received here from Maracaibo is to the effect that the German cruiser Vireta bombarded and destroyed the castle at Maracaibo. The cruiser fired on the fort at a distance of seven kilometres with her 7-inch guns and at a distance of thirteen kilometres with her 10-inch guns. She did not land men.

Official information received here from German sources is that the bombardment came about in this way. The German gunboat Panther tried to get inside the harbor because of bad weather outside. The castle fired on her without cause. The Panther returned the fire at first, but then retired and reported the incident to the German Commander, who sent the Vireta and Panther to bombard the fort. The Panther suffered no damages by the attack.

VENEZUELAN CALL TO ARMS.

Militia at Maracaibo Ready to Repel German Landing Party.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.
PARIS, Jan. 23.—News has been received from Maracaibo, Venezuela, that the State Governor General has issued a decree calling out all the militia for active service and appealing to their patriotism to repel the German invasion. Many responded. The local authorities have taken a fresh course of all able-bodied males between the ages of 15 and 60 who can be summoned for active service.

All the Paris newspapers in their comments on the bombardment of Fort San Carlos agree in the opinion that it will lead to serious friction between the United States and Germany.

DEFENDS THE BOMBARDMENT.

German Foreign Minister's Statement to the Reichstag.

BREKING, Jan. 23.—Baron von Richteofen, Minister of Foreign Affairs, discussed the Venezuelan case in the Reichstag to-day. In answering Herr (et al, who had said that the Government had entered upon the Venezuelan business "with great care and with a flourish of trumpets," said that he did not hesitate to admit the claim, but he objected to the flourish of trumpets.

On the contrary, Germany had gone to the utmost limit of patience in making diplomatic complaints to Venezuela for not paying her debts to Germany and for committing brutal acts of violence against Germans and their property. Her efforts

THE MARQUAND PICTURE SALE

PROCEEDS OF THE FIRST NIGHT'S BIDDING \$197,000.

Mendelssohn Hall Completely Filled by the Ticket Holders and Many Turned Away—Top Price Given for Alma Tadema's "A Reading From Homer."

The sale of the art collection of the late Henry G. Marquand was begun at Mendelssohn Hall last evening before a many people as could find places in the hall, and that there were not more persons present was due to the necessary closing of the doors to prevent the building from being overcrowded. The demand for tickets was extraordinary, and a large number of applications had to be refused. An hour before the opening of the sale people were standing before the doors, awaiting their chance for an early entrance in order to get seats. The rear room had to be thrown open to accommodate some of those who obtained admission.

This first session of the auction, which is to last through the remaining week days of the month, was devoted to Mr. Marquand's paintings and drawings, ninety-three of which were sold for a total of \$197,000.

A few of the persons in the audience were well known. William T. Evans, Samuel Spencer, the Rev. Frederick Terry, William Bundecker, Samuel P. Avery, William Loring Andrews, George A. Hearn, Alfred Parsons, the English artist, John Elwell, and among the dealers, M. Durand-Ruel, Eugene Fischhof, Roland Koeber, Jacques Seligman, and Julius Gelpi.

It is believed that the House could have perfect confidence in Commodore Schuler acting in full and correct appreciation of the situation, and that the German sailors would know how to uphold the honor of their flag.

The House, commenting upon the fact that the impression made in the United States and Great Britain by the Fort San Carlos affair, remarks that although the necessity for such a step may be regretted the German people fully understand the nature of military exigencies. This is the point which clearly divides public opinion in other countries from that of Germany, where it is more clearly realized that there ought to be no sentiment or weakness in military operations. When there has been a recourse to arms they must be resolutely employed. The German Government is imbued with this spirit and act accordingly.

In carrying out the blockade the commanders of the warships are not diplomats but the last word. The paper adds that it is much to be desired that the unfortunate Venezuelan business should be decided as soon as possible, but the German fleet with President Castro. Until his decision is given the German forces must show that they are not to be trifled with.

"BADLY DONE, PANTHER."

Amendment Suggested to Kaiser's Message in Previous Case.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.
VIENNA, Jan. 23.—The *Alpen Echo*, recalling that Emperor William telegraphed when the Panther sank the Haytian gunboat Crete-a-Pierrot, "Well done, Panther," says that he might now telegraph, "Badly done, Panther."

The paper adds that the action of the German squadron in Venezuelan waters has forfeited all the effect of Prince Henry's visit to the United States.

WORK AT OUR NAVY YARDS.

No Hasty Orders Apparently Here, but Unusual Activity at Newport.

NEWPORT, R. I., Jan. 23.—There is unusual activity at the naval training station at Newport, and coming on top of the Venezuelan trouble, it looks as if the work here had been received. In all the departments the work is being carried on to their utmost capacity.

The work of assembling harbor-defense mines, which are to be supplied to all the battleships in commission, is being rushed and as fast as the outfit is ready they will be shipped to the various vessels.

CONROLE, Va., Jan. 23.—No hurry orders have been received here, perhaps because there are no vessels here to be made ready. Only four ships returned from the fleet which congregated under Admiral Dewey in the Caribbean Sea. They were the Albany, the New York, the Nashville, the Benham, the San Francisco and the Prairie. The strength of the fleet is still in the Caribbean Sea. The collier Brutus left the navy yard to-day with Captain R. H. Smith in command. The collier Sterling has taken a cargo of coal and is ready to sail for the same destination. Recruiting is going on rapidly here, and the number of the prepared men will be filled immediately in the navy.

PARTY TO 135 WIDOWS.

Retired Banker Howlett of Syracuse Will Give It on Feb. 13.

SYRACUSE, Jan. 23.—Alfred A. Howlett, the retired banker, who will give a party to 135 widows on Feb. 13, has received hundreds of letters from every part of the country in regard to his novel undertaking. Many of them are from persons asking for various objects. Mr. Howlett said to-day: "I did not know that there were so many charitable purposes. A good many of these letters came from Philadelphia. That city isn't so slow as people think. I have a lot from Chicago. Some of the widows don't seem to care so much about coming to the party as they do about getting some money. I have no money to give away. One fellow asks \$100 to get married with. Some times I find it hard to make up my mind in the middle of the night laughing."

The preparation for the party is progressing. Howlett has a new house, and will have the widows in the night of the party. He expects to send out all of the 135 invitations he has ordered from the engraver.

Brakeman Found Dead on Top of a Car.

Middleton, N. Y., Jan. 23.—When Conductor Trough, Erie train 17A, reached the station at Middleton, N. Y., he found a brakeman, Farley, was found dead on top of a freight car, with his skull crushed in. Investigation to-day resulted in the finding of the dead man's cap and broke stick at the overhead wires of the Susquehanna and Western Railroad in this city, and traces were plainly visible on the iron girders, showing where Farley's head came in contact with them.

A Guaranteed Cure for Piles. Iching, Blind, Bleeding and Protruding Piles, No cure, no pay. All patients are guaranteed by the manufacturers of Lane ointment to receive the money should it fail to cure them, or if it does not cure them in less than ten days. One application gives ease and relief. Relieves itching instantly. This is a new discovery and it is the only cure for piles on a positive guarantee, no cure, no pay. Price 50c—Ade.

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